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Mr. Benjamin T. Gault, Glen Ellyn, Ill., writes: "I saw two Meadowlarks here on the 10th of January, and a large flock of Canada Geese on the 15th. Unusual winter visitors here.

EDITORIAL.

The year just closed has been the most prosperous one in the history of the Chapter, both financially and intellectually. Increased interest in the study of the birds has resulted in a larger paid up membership than for any previous year. There has been a marked tendency toward inquiry into the inner life of birds, an intelligent effort to search out the cause of any action while seeking a closer acquaintance with each bird. An accurate record of the migrations, the song, the food, the nesting, the eggs and the many other characteristics which we are wont to notice, will always be useful, but we need to look beyond these external things into the life of the bird and determine, if we can, why these things are so. We are just beginning to learn that the real problems of bird life are more than skin deep. The old grind that a 'bird in the hand is worth two in the bush' may still apply to other things, but it certainly does not apply to the birds. We want to know *them*, not simply their skins. May the coming year see still greater advance in this good work.

An invitation has been received to attend the January meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club at the residence of our fellow member, Mr. Chester Barlow, 529 South Fourth street, San Jose, Calif., which met on January 9. Among the papers presented is one on the "Habits of the Red-bellied Hawk" by another fellow member, Mr. Henry Ward Carriger. This live club is doing good work.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Oologist, Vol. IX. No. 1. Frank H. Lattin, Albion, N. Y.

Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum No. 49. A Bibliography of the Published Writings of Philip Lutley Sclater, by G. Brown Goode.

The Iowa Orinthologist. Vol. II. No. 4., Oct. 1896. David L. Savage, Salem, Ia.

The Fern Bulletin, Vol. V. No. 1., Jan. 1897. W. N. Clute, Binghamton, N. Y.